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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/717,456	11/21/2003	Susumu Fujioka	244641US2CONT	8050

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EXAMINER

FATAHI YAR, MAHMOUD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2629

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/717,456

Applicant(s)

FUJIOKA, SUSUMU

Examiner

Mike Fatahiyar

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f):
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/698,031.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/21/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. In compliance to 37 CFR 1.98, applicant is requested to provide copies of the Japanese references cited on the submitted form PTO-1449 and also provide the pertinence of each reference with respect to the claimed inventions of the present application.

2. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 11, the recited language "determining whether to input predetermined information" is vague and indefinite and incomplete because it is not clear based on what criteria the predetermined information is inputted. Further, it is unclear what constitute the "predetermined information". In other words, it is not clear to what it refers to. Furthermore, the relationship between the noted recitation and the rest of the recited elements in the claim is unclear.

In claim 3, line 9, the recited language "a controller configured to determine whether to input predetermined information" is vague, indefinite and incomplete for the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1.

In claim 4, line 2, the recitation "at least two corners in opposite corners" is vague and indefinite because the first occurrence of "corners" should be - - cameras - -.

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In claim 5, line 11, the recited language "means for determining whether to input predetermined information" is also vague, indefinite and incomplete for the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 1.

In claim 7, line 8, the recitation "a controller configured to determine whether to input predetermined information" is also vague, indefinite and incomplete for the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 1. Correction and/or clarification is required.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iura et al(5,617,312) in view of Ogawa(6,100,538).

Iura et al disclose a method and an apparatus for inputting information including coordinate data comprising at least one camera(100) mounted on top of a display device(202), an object extracting device(106) for extracting a predetermined object and recognizing the shape of the predetermined object(column 3, lines 59-67), a motion detector device(107) for detecting a motion of the predetermined object(column 4, lines 32-65) and for determining whether to input a predetermined information(column 5, lines 1-9). Iura et al substantially show all the features of the above claims except for the "at least one camera located at a corner of the display". However, Ogawa is cited to show that the concept of utilizing at least one image camera(3L and 3R) each

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located at a corner of a display panel(6) is old(see figure 1). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Iura et al with the above noted teaching of Ogawa such that to provide at least one image camera located at each corner of the display panel(202) because both references are related to input devices utilizing cameras for determining a location of an input.

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Iura et al(5,617,312).


7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Oohara et al, Smith et al, Kumar et al, Freeman et al, Dunton et al, Sigel and Dunthorn are made of record to show various types of input devices utilizing cameras for determining input information.

1. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Fatahiyar whose telephone number is (571)272-7688. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 to 6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on 571-272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

M. Fatahiyar

April 16, 2006